

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03558 191146Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAM-01

SAB-01 SCCT-02 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 076384

R 191125Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1705

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SANAA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE AMMAN 3558

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, YE

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN PRESS INTERVIEW WITH NOR YEMENI CHIEF
OF STAFF HUSSEIN AL-MASWRI

1. SUMMARY. IN LENGTHY INTERVIEW WITH JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, COL. HUSSEIN AL-MASWRI, NORTH YEMENI COS, STATED DURING RECENT VISIT TO JORDAN THAT TAKE-OVER IN YEMEN MERELY TEMPORARY "UNTIL CONDITIONS SUITABLE FOR RESTORATION OF POLITICAL REGIME". SAID THAT ARMY DID NOT SO MUCH SEIZE POWER AS "RESOLVE POLITICAL TURMOIL PRESENT IN NATIONAL POLITICAL LEADERSHIP", PARTICULARLY RE RIVALRY BETWEEN PARLIAMENT AND REPUBLICAN COUNCIL, AND WITHIN REPUBLICAN COUNCIL ITSELF. NOTED FURTHER THAT WHAT HAS HAPPENED HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED BY END OF 1974. NOW POSSIBLE TO SAY THAT TRUE DEMOCRACY WILL PREVAIL AND THAT ARMY WILL RETURN TO BARRACKS BY END OF YEAR. END SUMMARY.

MILITARY TAKE-OVER. IN LENGTHY INTERVIEW WITH JORDAN NEWS AGENCY, COL. HUSSEIN AL-MASWRI, NORTH YEMENI COS, MADE TOUR D'HORIZON, CONCENTRATING ON RECENT YEMENI MILITARY COUP. STATED THAT TAKE-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 AMMAN 03558 191146Z

OVER MERELY TEMPORARY "UNTIL CONDITIONS SUITABLE

FOR RESTORATION OF POLITICAL REGIME". ADDED THAT ARMY DID NOT IN FACT SEIZE POWER, SINCE YEMENI ARMY TRADITIONALLY REMOTE FROM POLITICS; ARMY MERELY "RESOLVED POLITICAL TURMOIL PRESENT IN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP". COUNTRY WAS ON VERGE OF CHAOS, SINCE INTERNAL RIVAIRIES PARALYZED DECISION-MAKING. AS EXAMPLES, AL-MASWRI MENTIONED DISPUTES BETWEEN PARLIAMENT AND REPUBLICAN COUNCIL, AND RIVAIRIES AMONG THREE MEMBERS OF REPUBLICAN COUNCIL (LATEST OF WHICH CENTERED ON FORMATION OF CABINET). SUCH OBSTRUCTIONISM LED AL-QADI AL-IRYANI SEVERAL TIMES TO PRESENT RESIGNATION, AND ULTIMATELY FORCED ARMY TO TAKE ACTION (ALTHOUGH ARMY NORMALLY APOLITICAL PROFESSIONAL BODY). "I BELIEVE THAT THE CIVILIAN DEMOCRATIC REGIME TOWARD WHICH THE NEW MILITARY COUNCIL IS GUIDING THE COUNTRY IS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO INTERNAL CONFLICT."

3. AL MASWRI FURTHER COMMENTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM SANAA INSTRUCTING HIM TO DESCRIBE SITUATION TO KING HUSSEIN IN ABOVE TERMS, HE ADDED THAT COUP IS "CORRECTIVE MOVE: WITH NO RELATION TO ANY EXTERNAL ELEMENTS. SUCH A MOVE HAD BEEN FORESEEN AS INEVITABLE BY END OF 1974, AT TIME WHEN NEW PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE. AL-MASWRI NOTED THAT TRUE DEMOCRACY WILL PREVAIL BY END OF YEAR AND THAT ARMY WOULD BE BACK IN ITS BARRACKS BY THEN.

4. FOREIGN RELATIONS. AL-MASWRI SAID THAT SAUDI ARABIA JUSTIFIABLY INTERESTED IN WHAT TAKES PLACE IN YEMEN, AND THAT MUCH BETTER YEMENI-SAUDI RELATIONS CAN BE EXPECTED. "THIS HAS BEEN MADE EXPLICIT BY COL. HAMDI AND THE STATEMENTS OF A SAUDI PALACE SPOKESMAN". TURNING TO SOUTH YEMEN, AL-MASWRI COMPLAINED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO RESPONSE AT ALL FROM THAT COUNTRY TO REPEATED REQUESTS TO HALT SABOTAGE OPERATION IN N. YEMEN. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE MENTIONED ATTEMPTED SABOTAGE THREE DAYS PREVIOUSLY "BY SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS FROM A CER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 AMMAN 03558 191146Z

TAIN ARAB COUNTRY" (PRESUMABLY IRAQ). AL-MASWARI STATED THAT HE AND COL. BIRAHIM AL-HAMDI HAD DECIDED TO VISIT PRESIDENT OF THAT COUNTRY TO PRESENT DOCUMENTS PROVING CONSPIRACY, BUT VISIT NOW CANCELED.

5. LOCAL PRESS STATED THAT AL-MASWRI PLANS TO VISIT CAIRO AND RIYADH ON BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS

FROM SANAA.
PICKERING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, JUNTA, POLITICAL STABILITY, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974AMMAN03558
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740159-1165
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740634/aaaabclt.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JORDANIAN PRESS INTERVIEW WITH NOR YEMENI CHIEF OF STAFF HUSSEIN AL-MASWRI
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, YE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005